



# Leaning Palm Resort

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## What to Bring

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### Don't leave home without:

- Valid Passport (valid for 6 months beyond your anticipated date of return) – Keep a copy in a separate location in your luggage in case your passport is lost or stolen.
- Visa (if necessary) <https://www.belize.com/berize-visa>
- US Cash for Departure Tax
- Travel itinerary with flight information, boarding passes, hotel information and any other information related to your time in Belize
- Driver's License if you plan to rent a vehicle. If you do plan to rent a vehicle please reserve a 4WD – Belizean roads can be rocky, wet and muddy. We highly recommend Crystal Auto Rental and they can provide you with a phone to use while you are in Belize. They can also provide you with a cooler.
- Cash/Credit Cards – The official currency of Belize is the Belizean Dollar usually noted as BZD. The exchange rate is \$1 USD to \$2 BZD. US Cash is widely accepted throughout Belize so there is no need to exchange money at the airport, but be sure you have small bills as sometimes vendors do not have change. You will always receive change in BZD even if you spend USD. There are ATMs in most parts of Belize, but please note that there are no ATMs in Gales Point, so be sure to visit an ATM before traveling to our area of Belize. A Note about Tipping Below.
- A flexible, positive attitude that's ready to experience new things!
- Toiletries & Medication: Not easy to get off-the-beaten path.
- Seasick Medication if you are prone to sea sickness. Meclizine is a great product which typically does not make one drowsy like Dramamine. It is usually kept behind the counter, but a prescription is not needed. If you are taking the boat transport to

Leaning Palm Resort please take your sea sickness medication as soon as you arrive in Belize so it has time to take affect before you get on the boat.

- Sunscreen with High SPF
- Bug repellent & Hydrocortisone cream – You are visiting the tropics so expect to experience some biting insects. Bug repellent should have a high DEET concentration. Baby oil can be helpful for additional protection against sand flies.
- Anti-diarrheal medication such as Immodium. Unlikely that you will need it, but just in case.
- Clothing: choose light-weight, light-colored cotton and linen fabrics. Water shoes or closed toed sandals especially if you plan to do any hiking or caving tours (ATM Tour Requires Socks), flip-flops, hat, swimsuit, at least one long sleeved shirt and long pants for those times when it is cool, you have had more than enough sun or you just don't want to spray up with deet. We do have laundry service available at LPR, cost is \$15 USD per bag.

**Pack one change of clothes, flip-flops, and a bathing suit in your carry-on! Just in case luggage is lost or delayed.**

## **Other items to consider:**

- Small personal first aid kit: i.e. band-aids, aspirin, pain relief medication, scissors, tweezers, safety pins, Benedryl tablets, Neosporin ~ NOTE: Benedryl can be very helpful should you react to a bug bite or have an allergic reaction from plants in the jungle.
- Earplugs if you are a light sleeper or sensitive to wave noise or animal/bird sounds
- Water bottle
- Travel towel for off-site water-based excursions
- Small back-pack for excursions
- Camera and other Electronics – Don't forget the charging cords! Consider investing in waterproof cases.
- Good reading book, log book and pen
- Detailed Clothing List:
  - o Sunglasses
  - o Hat
  - o Shorts
  - o T-Shirts

- Long comfortable pants
  - Long sleeve shirt
  - Socks
  - Fleece or sweater (especially in the winter months)
  - Light weight rain jacket
  - Bathing suit
  - Sandals
  - Sturdy shoes like hiking boots or running shoes
  - Water shoes
  - Snorkel gear if you are picky about your own gear
  - PADI (or equivalent) certification card if you plan to dive
  - Dry bag for carrying personal belongings on water-based activities
  - Insurance cards
  - Travel Insurance
  - Credit cards
  - Flashlight with extra batteries
  - Binoculars
  - Maps, guide books & field guides
  - If you have rented a vehicle we recommend purchasing this map:  
[https://www.amazon.com/Laminated-Belize-English-Spanish-Italian/dp/386609048X/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1513454654&sr=8-2&keywords=belize+road+map](https://www.amazon.com/Laminated-Belize-English-Spanish-Italian/dp/386609048X/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1513454654&sr=8-2&keywords=belize+road+map)
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## What should I tip?

We are often asked about tipping and it is something we have struggled with in our travels. We have noticed that tipping varies by culture, person, sex (male or female [not yes or no]) and many other traits in our species. Over the years we have developed our philosophy which we will share here. Please tip from your own hearts and minds. It is a choice, not a demand.

Most Belize tourist establishments add an 18% service fee which they "hopefully" split amongst their staff as a tip for service. This has caused employees of the tourism industry to

expect a specific amount of their pay to come from this service fee. Leaning Palm Resort DOES NOT DO THIS. We believe that tipping should be based on the customer's experience and therefore the amount should be determined by the customer. If you receive good service that should be expected, but if you receive great or excellent service then a tip is in order. We ask that you do what is in your hearts and minds based on the level of service you receive from our staff. Any tip, no matter how big or small, is very much appreciated!

~ Tips for tours should be paid directly to the tour guide or boat captain. ~ Tips for the staff can be paid with your final bill and will be distributed equally among the staff of Leaning Palm Resort unless otherwise requested. ~ Ken and Taunya, if tipped, will pass the tip onto our staff who we would not be able to survive without!